

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 through 14 - Cancelled.

15. (new) A plastic article, which is transparent and consists of

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- i) a plastic substrate,
- ii) optionally a coupling layer,
- iii) at least one zinc oxide coating, wherein the coating consists essentially of zinc oxide nanoparticles which have a primary particle size of from 1 to 30 nm and which are embedded in an organosilane as a binder resin, and
- iv) one abrasion resistant outer coating.

16. (new) The plastic article of Claim 15, wherein the abrasion-resistant coating contains sol-gel materials.

17. (new) The plastic article of Claim 16, wherein the zinc oxide particles are surface-modified with 3-glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.

18. (new) The plastic article of Claim 15, wherein the zinc oxide particles are surface-modified with 3-glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.

19. (new) The plastic article of Claim 15, wherein the plastic substrate comprises a member selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyethylene, polypropylene, polymethyl methacrylate, polystyrene, polvinyl cyclohexane and copolymers thereof, acrylonitrile/butadiene/styrene copolymers (ABS), polyvinyl chloride, polycarbonate and blends thereof.

20. (new) The plastic article of Claim 19, wherein the abrasion-resistant coating contains sol-gel materials.

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21. (new) The plastic article of Claim 20, wherein the zinc oxide particles are surface-modified with 3-glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.
22. (new) The plastic article of Claim 19, wherein the zinc oxide particles are surface-modified with 3-glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane.
23. (new) A method of protecting a plastic article against UV radiation and against mechanical damage comprising:
 - a) applying at least one zinc oxide coating to said article, wherein the coating consists essentially of zinc oxide nanoparticles which have a primary particle size of from 1 to 30 nm and an organosilane as a binder resin, and
 - b) applying an abrasion resistant coating to the zinc oxide coating.
24. (new) The method of Claim 23, wherein a coupling layer is applied to said article before application of said zinc oxide coating.